

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

I. Claim Status

Claims 1-8 are pending in the instant application. Claims 1 and 5-7 are withdrawn.

II. Restriction/Election

A. Restriction

Claims 1-8 were subject to a requirement for restriction as follows:

- I. Claim 1, IN PART, drawn to a crystal form of 2-amino-7-(ethanimidoylamino)-2-methylhept-5-enoic acid, wherein the said salt is not embraced in the salts described in claims 2 and 3, classified in class 562, subclass 460.
- II. Claims 1, IN PART, and 2, 3 and 4, drawn to a crystal form of 2-amino-7-(ethanimidoylamino)-2-methylhept-5-enoic acid wherein the said salts are described in claims 2 and 3 and pharmaceutical compositions comprising the same, classified in class 562, subclass 460.
- III. Claims 5-7 drawn to methods for the prophylaxis OR treatment of any clinical condition in a mammal for which an inhibitor of nitric oxide synthase is indicated and method of use of compounds described in claim 1 in the manufacture of medicaments, classified in different classes and subclasses.
- IV. Claim 8, drawn to a synthetic preparation method for preparing compounds described in the said claim in class 562 and subclass 460.

Applicants elect the invention of claims 2-4, group II. Claims 1 and 5-8 are withdrawn. Upon a finding of allowability of claims 2-4, applicants respectfully request rejoinder of claim 8 (synthetic preparation method).

B. Election of Species

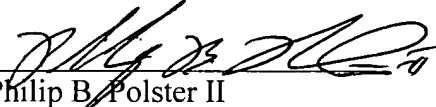
Applicants elect the species 2-amino-7-(ethanimidoylamino)-2-methylhept-5-enoic acid, sesquihydrochloride (1.5 HCl) for purposes of examination on the merits.

III. Claim Amendments

Claims 2 and 4 have been amended to reflect the elected species, crystalline 2-amino-7-(ethanimidoylamino)-2-methylhept-5-enoic acid, 1.5 hydrochloride. No new matter is introduced.

If the Examiner believes a telephonic interview with Applicant's representative would aid in the prosecution of this application, he is cordially invited to contact Applicant's representative at the below listed number.

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